

Journey of a Lifetime...

Jerusalem
to Eilat
November 8-15



The Arava Institute & Hazon מכון הערבה וחזון

ISRAEL רכיבת RIDE ישראל

Cycling for Peace, Partnership and Environmental Protection
رحلة من أجل تضامن السلام والبيئة ركوبين למען איכות הסביבה, דו-קיום ושלום

A 200–300 mile, 5 day Ride:

including comfortable accommodations, all meals, domestic travel in Israel and full rider support.

3 Rides in 1:

a challenging course for expert cyclists, a moderate ride for experienced riders, and a recreational route with touring options.

Join Team JNF

Contact Bay Area JNF Regional Director Aaron Parker for more details: AParker@jnf.org or 415 677 9600

www.israelride.org

info@israelride.org | 212 644 2332 x302

Riders pay a registration fee and raise a minimum sponsorship



For Yourself

For Israel



For Peace



מכון הערבה

Arava Institute

معهد وادي عربة



Jerusalem to Eilat

November 8-15, 2011

Basic Overview

- A week-long trip: five riding days, orientation in Jerusalem, and Shabbat in Mitzpe Ramon
- Fundraising commitment in support of the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies and Hazon
- Varied and diverse community of all backgrounds, ages, religious levels and knowledge of Israel
- Multiple riding groups for cyclists of all levels
 - *Shomrim* ride until lunch, and spend the afternoon touring. 175 miles total (35/day)
 - *Tzofim* ride a direct route each day from hotel to hotel. 275 miles total (55/day)
 - *Chalutzim* ride extended routes with extra climbing. Over 300 miles total (65/day)

Fully Supported Ride

- Bicycle transport to and from Ben Gurion Airport
- Accommodations in 4-star hotels and kibbutz guest houses. Luggage is transported each day
- Breakfast and lunch served on the road and large dinner buffets each night in the hotel
- Supporting crew of Arava Institute alumni
- Fully stocked rest stops every 10-15 miles
- Bicycle mechanics help assemble your bike and follow the route by bike and car
- Domestic flight from Eilat to Tel Aviv included

Itinerary

- Sun-Mon, Nov 6-7: *Optional* touring options before the ride (to be determined)
- Tuesday, Nov 8: Bike assembly, short test ride, and orientation in Jerusalem
- Wednesday Nov 9: All groups ride various routes from the outskirts of Jerusalem to Ashkelon (35-50-60 miles)
- Thursday, Nov 10: Ride into the northern Negev, with *Chalutzim* riding to the Egyptian border (40-70-95)
- Friday, Nov 11: *Shomrim* ride directly to Mitzpe Ramon (35), *Tzofim* have an off-road option to a desert spring (45), *Chalutzim* ride along the Egyptian border (65)
- Saturday, Nov 12: Shabbat in Mitzpe Ramon on the edge of a giant erosion crater (*Makhtesh Ramon*) No Riding. Prayer options, educational sessions, time to relax, swim, or get a massage
- Sunday, Nov 13: Cross the heart of the desert to Kibbutz Ketura, home of the Arava Institute (40-60-70)
- Monday, Nov 14: Follow the Egyptian border and end with a stunning descent to Eilat (20-50-60) Closing on the beach, bike disassembly, final dinner
- Tuesday, Nov 15: Travel day – take a domestic flight of your choice back to Tel Aviv. *Optional* tour of Petra

Fundraising Beneficiaries:

- Riders are required to raise \$3600 in sponsorship (reduced to \$3000 for 2nd family members, riders under 35, and first time visitors to Israel). The Ride provides online tools and tips to help fundraising.
- **The Arava Institute** for Environmental Studies is a center for environmental leadership working towards peace and sustainable development on a regional and global scale.
 - Students are Israeli Jews and Arabs, Palestinians, Jordanians, and North Americans
 - Offers courses at a bachelors and masters level along with a research department
- **Hazon** creates healthy and sustainable communities in the Jewish world and beyond.
 - Bicycle rides in New York and California to raise money for environmental projects.
 - Food programs including a Community Supported Agriculture farm co-op network, annual Food Conference, and educational materials for classrooms.



Frequently Asked Questions

- **What does my registration fee include?**
 - The registration fee, and part of your fundraising, includes all meals and double occupancy hotel overnights from Tuesday lunch (Nov 8) to Tuesday breakfast (Nov 15). It also includes transportation of your bike to and from the airport, energy snacks, mechanics, professional lead riders, police and security, medical personnel, transportation of your luggage, and a domestic flight back from Eilat to Tel Aviv at the end of the ride.
- **What extra costs are there?**
 - During the ride there are almost no extra costs. You are responsible for your airfare and transportation to Jerusalem, as well as any pre- or post-ride touring or hotel stays. There are additional costs for rental bikes, single upgrades and for guests. You are responsible for any incidental costs incurred, such as internet, massages and alcoholic beverages. There is ride merchandise for sale, and shopping options along the route.
- **How do I get my bike to Israel?**
 - Most airlines accept bikes on planes, for an extra cost. El Al flies bikes for free, and many airlines waive the fee if you have frequent flyer status. Your local bike shop can help you dismantle your bike for shipment. You can use a sturdy plastic case (about \$400), a soft case (about \$150) or ask your bike shop for a cardboard box.
- **Can I rent a bike?**
 - Yes. We offer hybrid bikes for \$125 for the whole week, and have a limited amount of road bikes available for \$225. All bikes are minimally used and have good climbing gears.
- **What is the latest I can arrive and earliest I can leave?**
 - The latest you can land in Israel is 9 am on Tuesday, November 8th.
 - You should not schedule a departing flight before 11 am on Tuesday, November 15th.
- **I have never been to Israel – is this a good first trip?**
 - Yes! You will see a large part of Israel, and our en-route education will give you a good overview of the land. You can extend your stay and join us for additional tours to see areas that we will not ride through.
- **I have been to Israel many times – will I see anything new?**
 - Yes! Touring by bike allows you to take in many new views of the country. The ride through the desert also visits areas often skipped on typical tours of Israel.
- **How hot is it in the desert while we are riding?**
 - Even in the fall, the desert temperatures can reach 90 degrees in the day, although they will cool significantly at night. For the first few days it can be chilly with a chance of rain, so bring layers.
- **How much of my fundraising actually benefits the organizations?**
 - About half of your fundraising is used to cover costs. We strive to keep costs as low as possible, and some of the costs are used for other non-monetary benefits of Ride, such as raising awareness and education.
- **How does Team JNF and fundraising through JNF work?**
 - Members of Team JNF will fundraise like all the riders, but the proceeds of their fundraising go to JNF, who disburse the donations to the Arava Institute. JNF riders support their local JNF region's fundraising goals as well as the Israel Ride.
- **Should I be concerned about security in Israel?**
 - The Arava Institute and Hazon consider the safety of the participants our first priority and coordinate our route with local authorities and will change or close our route with their input. However, as with traveling in any country, you should be aware when you are on your own. Our biggest concern is Israeli drivers, but our multiple crew cars and occasional police presence on the road warn vehicles that our group is in the area.

